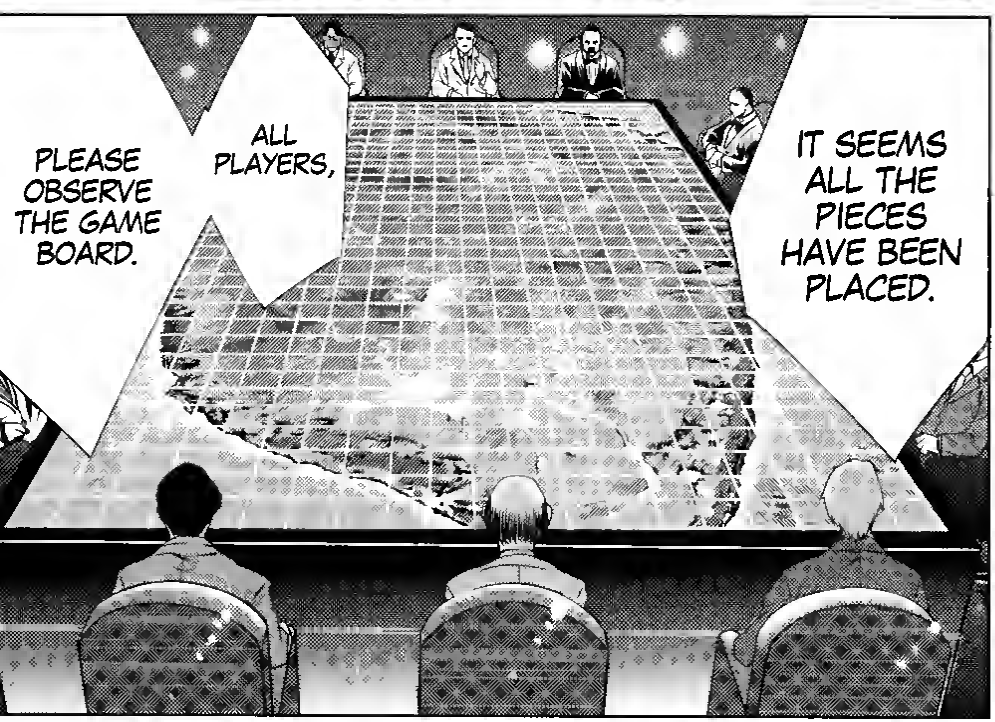
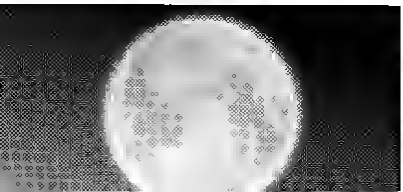
THE SEA IS SO BIG!
THIS SHIP IS SO FAST!
THE WIND IS SO STRONG!
THE NIGHT IS SO DARK!
THE ISLAND IS SO HUGE!
THIS GIRL IS SO DUMB.

LET THE DESTROYALE BEGIN!
AND SO, WITHOUT FURTHER ADO,
CHAPTER 8


PLEASE OBSERVE THE GAME BOARD.
ALL PLAYERS,
IT SEEMS ALL THE PIECES HAVE BEEN PLACED.

HITOMI...?
ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO BE OKAY,



BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THE GAME'S STARTED.
URGH...
I DON'T REALLY GET WHAT'S GOING ON,

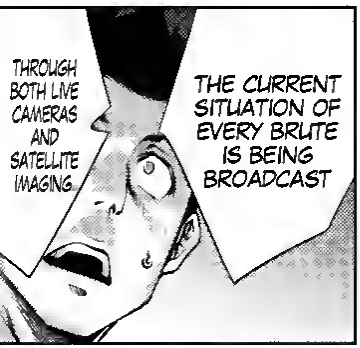
CHAPTER 8: THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU TO QUIT, YOU TRASH!

AWE-SOME!!
HA HA!
RATEL BRUTE
HITOMI UZAKI
THERE ARE SOME PLACES WITH ELECTRIC LIGHTS,
JUST WHAT YOU'D EXPECT FROM A DESERTED ISLAND.
IT'S SO DARK YOU CAN'T SEE ANYTHING.
AND...
BUT YOU'LL BE RELYING ON THE MOONLIGHT,

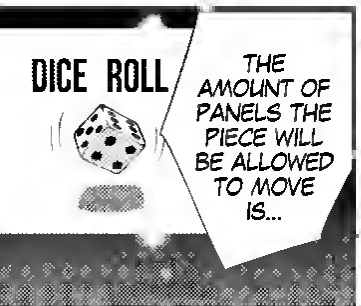
THIS IS AS FAR AS WE CAN ACCOMPANY YOU.
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, THIS WOULD BE THE TIME..
BUT THIS THING...
I DON'T NEED TO ASK ANYTHING,
WHICH HAVE TRANSCENDED THOSE OF US ORDINARY HUMANS.
YOUR INSTINCTS AS HYBRIDS,
I'M AFRAID NOT.
THAT "COLLAR" IS YOUR NAVIGATOR.
CAN I TAKE IT OFF?
IT'S ANNOYING.

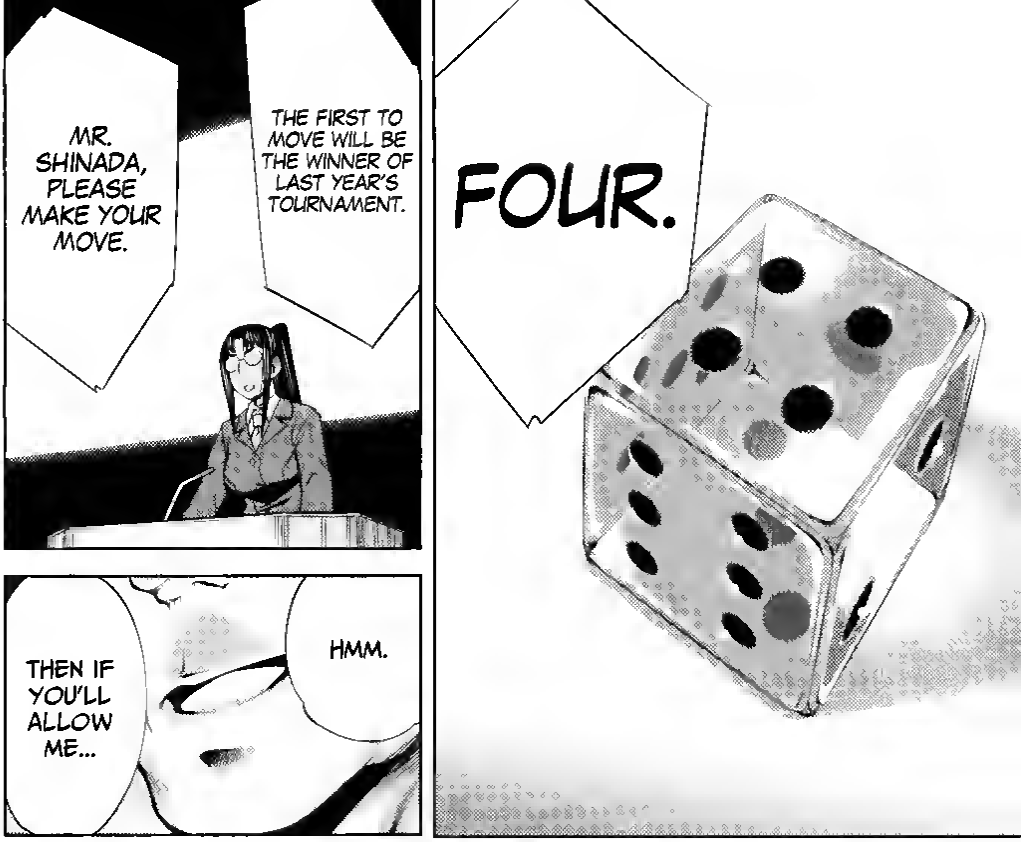
AND WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T FOLLOW THOSE DIRECTIONS?
IT'LL GIVE YOU DIRECTIONS ON WHERE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO GO.
FURTHERMORE, IT'S MADE OF A SPECIAL MATERIAL
THAT'LL STRETCH OR CONTRACT WHEN YOU TRANSFORM, SO IT WON'T CAUSE YOU ANY PROBLEMS.
A FORMAL WARNING THAT YOU'VE VIOLATED THE RULES WILL BE ISSUED RIGHT AWAY.
IF YOU INSIST ON IGNORING IT.
HEH.
NICE TOY YOU'VE GOT HERE.
BOOM!
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS.
WE'LL LEAVE YOU WITH THAT.
WE WISH YOU
THE BEST OF LUCK.
WELL THEN...
ｻﾘｯ

LET'S GET
THIS GAME STARTED!!


THROUGH BOTH LIVE CAMERAS AND SATELLITE IMAGING
THE CURRENT SITUATION OF EVERY BRUTE IS BEING BROADCAST

ON EVERY MONITOR IN THE HALL,
AS YOU CAN SEE

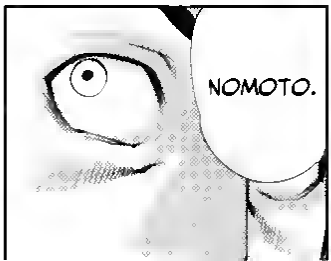

DICE ROLL
THE AMOUNT OF PANELS THE PIECE WILL BE ALLOWED TO MOVE IS...


MR. SHINADA, PLEASE MAKE YOUR MOVE.
THE FIRST TO MOVE WILL BE THE WINNER OF LAST YEAR'S TOURNAMENT.
FOUR.

THEN IF YOU'LL ALLOW ME...
HMM.

YOU CAN TELL HE'S SMART JUST BY LOOKING AT HIM...
THAT'S THE GUY WHO WON LAST TIME.

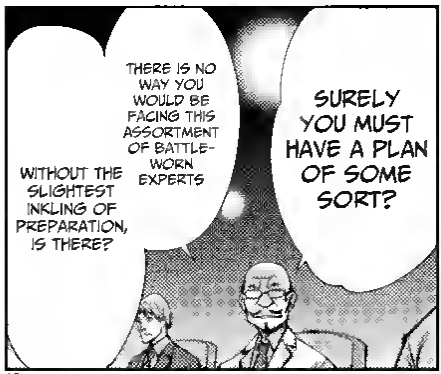
TO 6-3.
FROM 5-1, PASSING FROM 5-3,
YATSUBISHI MOTORS REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTOR
MASANOBU SHINADA


NOMOTO.

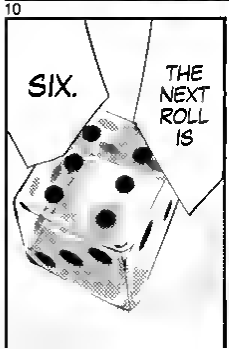
HUH?
TOPO-GRAPHY?
YOU'VE FIGURED OUT
THE GENERAL TOPOGRAPHY OF THE ISLAND, HAVEN'T YOU?
IF YOU JUST BLINDLY MOVE YOUR PIECE,
THIS IS NO MERE GAME.

COULD IT BE
THAT EVER SINCE YOU DECIDED TO PARTICIPATE,
WHICH WOULD BE THE SAME AS THROWING AWAY HER LIFE.
YOU COULD LEAD HER INTO A CREVICE OR A RIVER,

HUH?
NO, WELL,
I MEAN...
"MAYBE I SHOULD SEE THE PLACE FOR MYSELF?"
YOU HAVEN'T THOUGHT EVEN A SINGLE TIME,
HAHAHA.
IF HE WERE ONE OF THE MITSUKADO ZAIBATSU, MAYBE...


SURELY YOU MUST HAVE A PLAN OF SOME SORT?
THERE IS NO WAY YOU WOULD BE FACING THIS ASSORTMENT OF BATTLE-WORN EXPERTS
WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST INKLING OF PREPARATION, IS THERE?

BUT PREEMPTIVE RECONNAISSANCE ISN'T REALLY POSSIBLE FOR A COMMON STUDENT, IS IT?
OH, IT IS.
NOWADAYS, YOU COULD GET AT LEAST THE GENERAL IDEA JUST BY USING THE INTERNET.

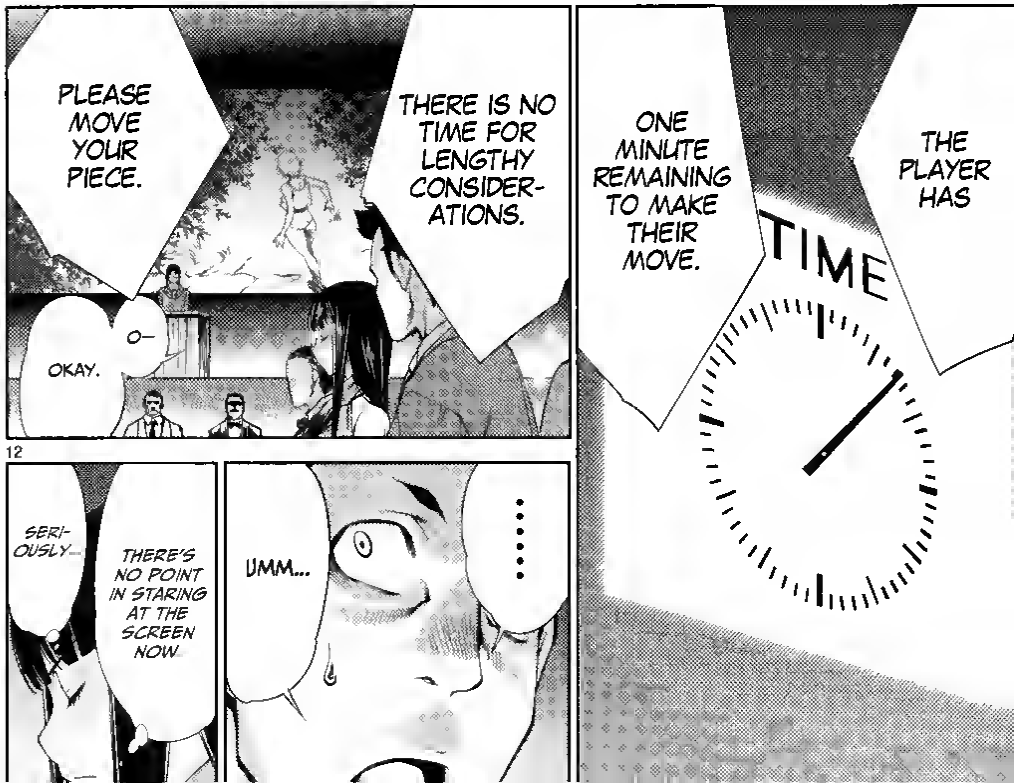

SIX.
THE NEXT ROLL IS

UH—
UH...
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

BAH.
DISGUSTING AMATEUR.
MR. NOMOTO.
PLEASE ADVANCE YOUR PIECE.
O-
OKAY.
THE DESTROYALE IS A MIND GAME WHERE A SINGLE MOVE
CAN SPELL GREAT OR TERRIBLE FORTUNE FOR THE PIECES.
EVEN IF HE HAD BOTHERED TO LEARN THE TOPOGRAPHY OF THE ISLAND,

THIS ISN'T THE KIND OF SIMPLE GAME AN IDIOT GOING TO SOME FOURTH-RATE UNIVERSITY
COULD POSSIBLY WIN.
MOVING SIX PANELS FROM THAT PLACE...
THAT WOULD MEAN...
FOR THOSE ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH THE GAME, THERE'D ONLY BE ONE MOVE.
A PLACE FROM WHICH YOU HAVE A PERFECT VIEW IN ALL FOUR DIRECTIONS.

BUT SINCE THERE'S A LOT OF DIFFICULT SPOTS FILLED WITH CREVICES OR THICK FOREST,
YOU HAVE TO PLAN THE ROUTE CAREFULLY.
THOUGH...
15-24.
SUCH A THING
IS WELL OUT OF THE REACH OF OUR COMPLETE AMATEUR HERE...


PLEASE MOVE YOUR PIECE.
THERE IS NO TIME FOR LENGTHY CONSIDER-ATIONS.
O—
OKAY.
ONE MINUTE REMAINING TO MAKE THEIR MOVE.
THE PLAYER HAS
TIME
SERI-OUSLY—
THERE'S NO POINT IN STARING AT THE SCREEN NOW.
UMM...
.....

HERE...
START
YOU TRASH!
THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU TO QUIT,
THEN...

IMPOS-SIBLE...
.....
GO TWO PANELS FROM HERE...
UM...
YOUR COORDI-NATES, PLEASE?
WAIT, THAT WON'T REACH IT...
THEN HERE...
TURN, GO, TURN...

15-24,
P—
PLEASE.
14
J—
WITH SUCH AN UNCERTAIN MOVE...
JUST WHO IS THIS GUY?

HE MANAGED TO GO FOR
THE BEST SPOT!

!
A STROKE OF LUCK?
NO, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
THEN HOW COULD HE HAVE...?

!
LISTEN UP, NOMOTO.
COULD THEY HAVE...?
THOSE TWO...

THERE'S NO WAY AN IDIOT LIKE YOU
COULD BEAT THE SMART GUYS YOU'LL BE PLAYING AGAINST.
HAHA...
SORRY...
SO YOU DON'T
HAVE TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING.

WHEN YOU'RE ASKED TO MOVE YOUR PIECE,
I'LL BE GIVING THE COMMANDS.
IF I WANT TO MOVE A PANEL TO THE RIGHT, I'LL DO THIS.
SCISSORS FOR TWO PANELS, THREE FOR PAPER.
GOT IT?
DON'T LOOK AT ME, LOOK AT YOUR CELL PHONE.
PRACTICE LOOKING AT MY SIGNS FROM A SCREEN.
JUST LIKE THAT.
SO,
THAT'S OUR PLAN.

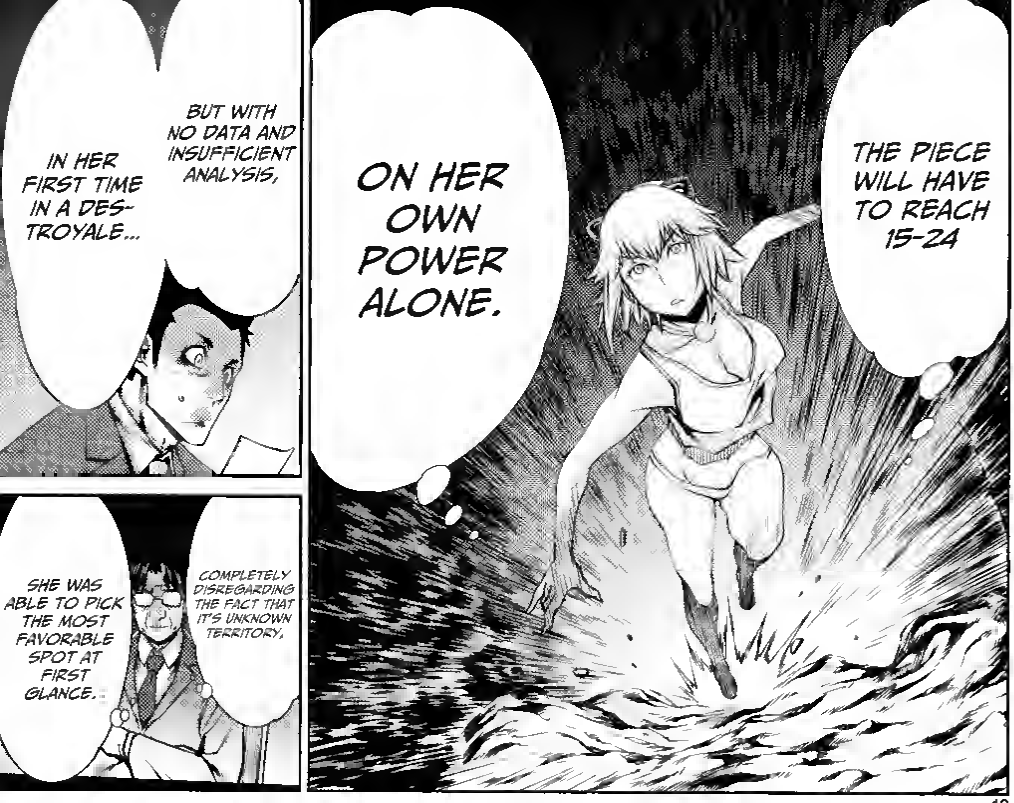
I'LL JUST OBEY WHATEVER SIGNS HITOMI SENDS ME.
I CALL IT...
WITHOUT THINKING OF ANYTHING,

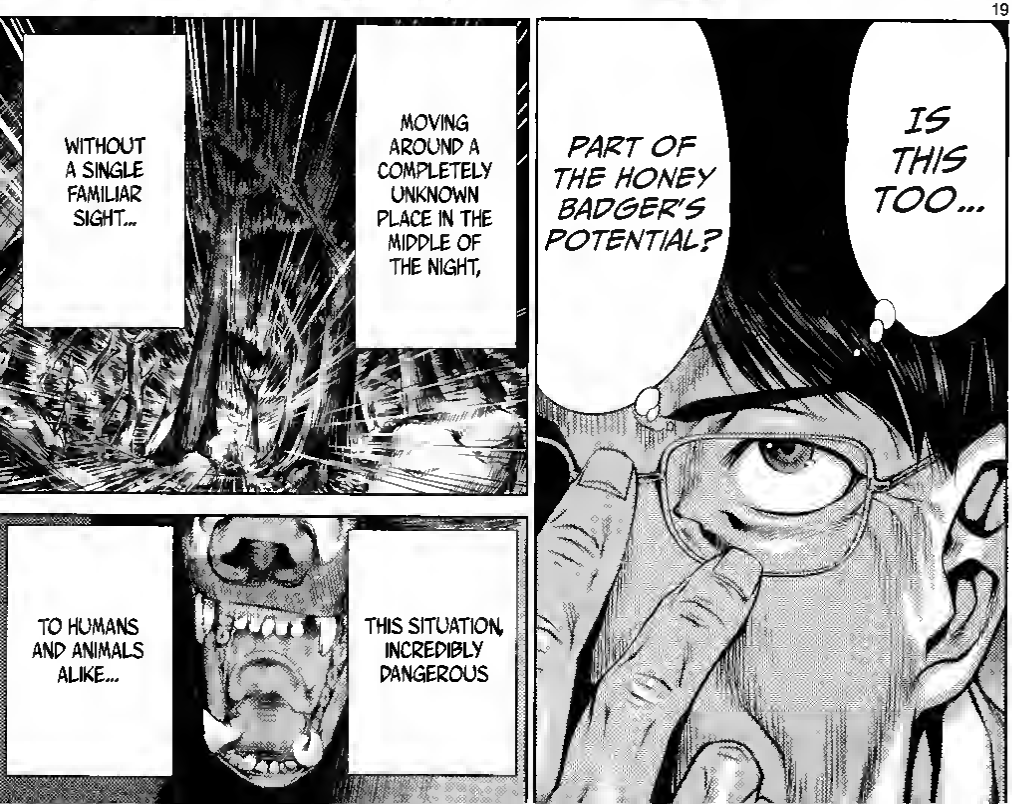
OPERATION UNTHINK!!

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANY-THING LIKE THIS
TO PUT IT IN SPORTS TERMS, IT'D BE LIKE THE PLAYER GIVING ORDERS TO THE MANAGER.
AN UNTHINKABLE STRATEGY IN WHICH THE PIECE MOVES ITSELF.

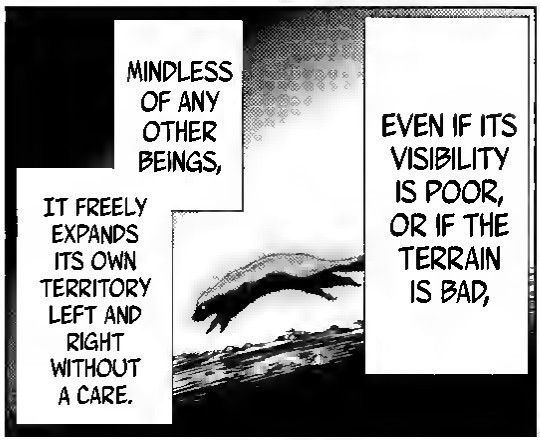
WELL PLAYED.
HM...

BY DOING THAT...
BUT


IN HER FIRST TIME IN A DES-TROYALE...
BUT WITH NO DATA AND INSUFFICIENT ANALYSIS,
ON HER OWN POWER ALONE.
THE PIECE WILL HAVE TO REACH 15-24
SHE WAS ABLE TO PICK THE MOST FAVORABLE SPOT AT FIRST GLANCE.
COMPLETELY DISREGARDING THE FACT THAT IT'S UNKNOWN TERRITORY,


WITHOUT A SINGLE FAMILIAR SIGHT...
MOVING AROUND A COMPLETELY UNKNOWN PLACE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT,
TO HUMANS AND ANIMALS ALIKE...
THIS SITUATION, INCREDIBLY DANGEROUS
PART OF THE HONEY BADGER'S POTENTIAL?
IS THIS TOO...

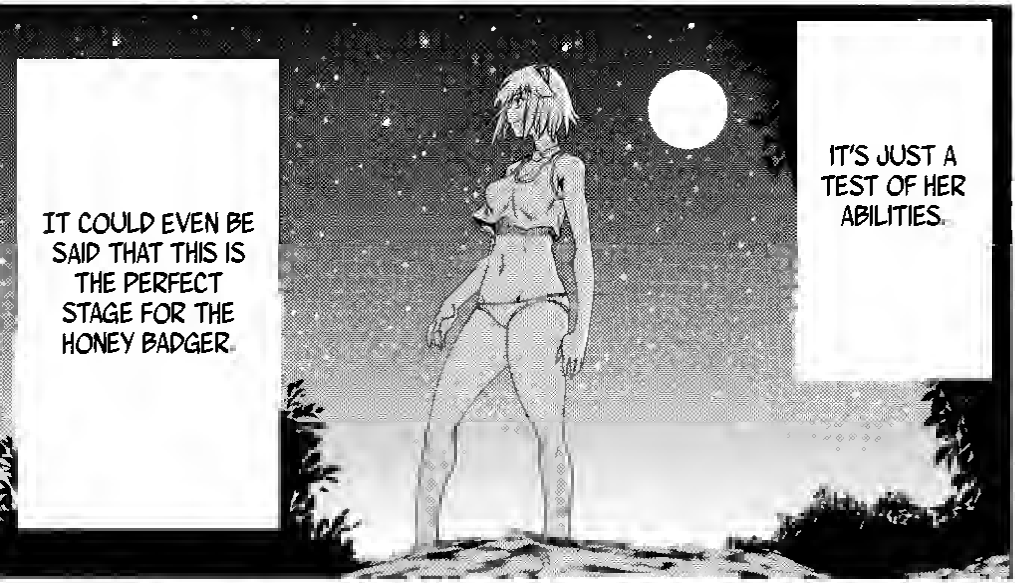
TO THE HONEY BADGER.
IS JUST EVERYDAY LIFE

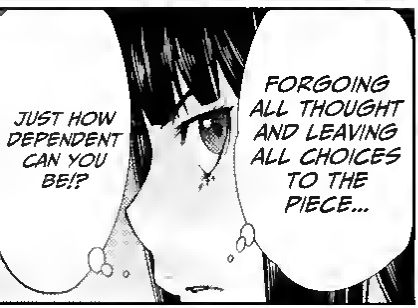

MINDLESS OF ANY OTHER BEINGS,
IT FREELY EXPANDS ITS OWN TERRITORY LEFT AND RIGHT WITHOUT A CARE.
EVEN IF ITS VISIBILITY IS POOR, OR IF THE TERRAIN IS BAD,

USING ITS UNCANNY LACK OF FEAR AS A WEAPON,

IN OTHER WORDS...
FINDING HUNTING GROUNDS AND PICKING OUT NESTS AT FIRST GLANCE IS THE FOUNDATION OF A HONEY BADGER'S DAILY LIFE.

SHOULD BE AN INCREDIBLE DISADVANTAGE,
EVEN THOUGH BEING THROWN INTO AN UNKNOWN, SAVAGE LAND ALL ALONE


IT COULD EVEN BE SAID THAT THIS IS THE PERFECT STAGE FOR THE HONEY BADGER.
IT'S JUST A TEST OF HER ABILITIES.


JUST HOW DEPENDENT CAN YOU BE!?
FORGOING ALL THOUGHT AND LEAVING ALL CHOICES TO THE PIECE...

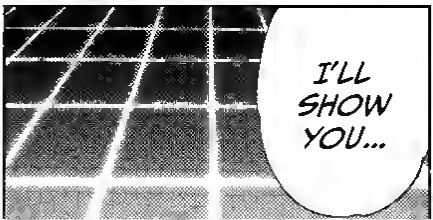
AT ALL!?
NO, AS A HUMAN, DOES HE HAVE NO SHAME
AS A PLAYER...

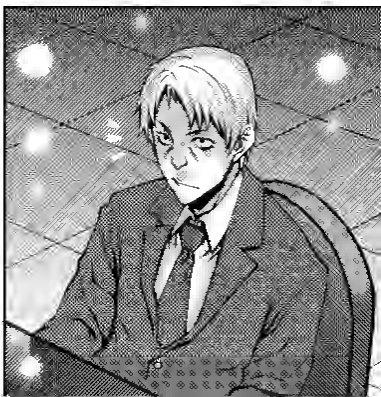
WH—
WHAT A PERSON...

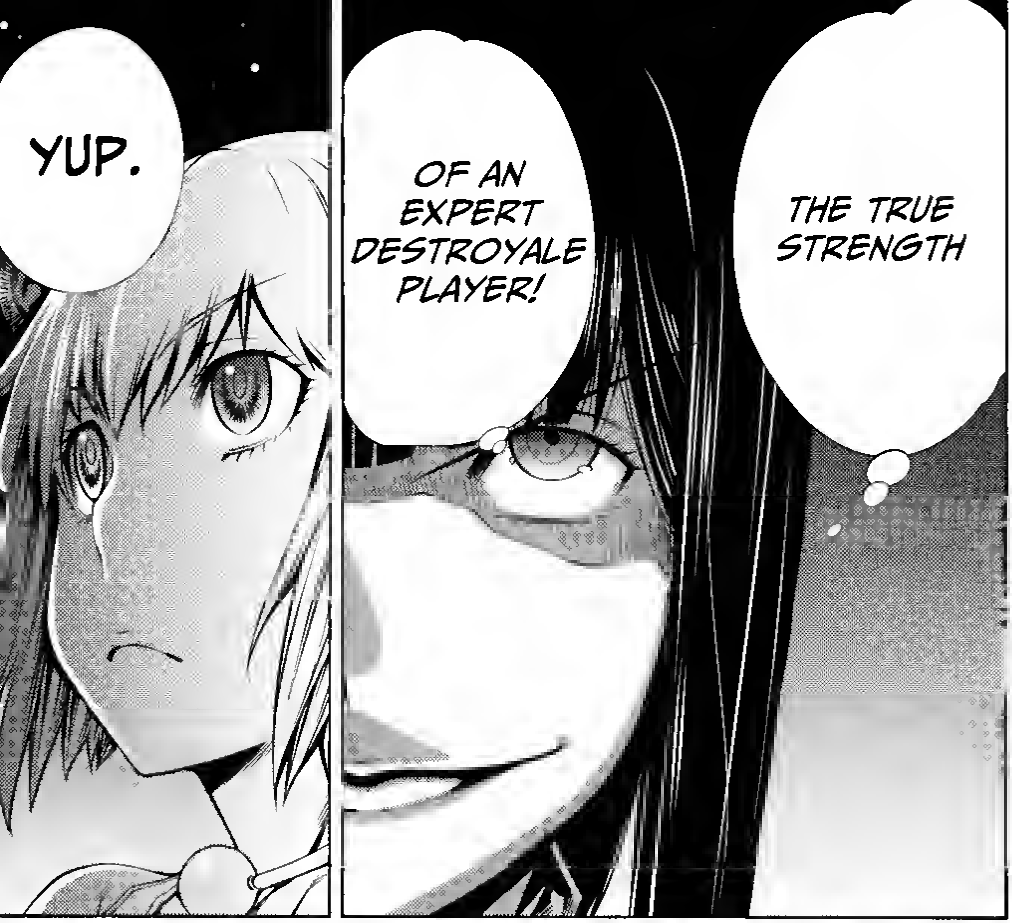
I'LL CRUSH HIM.

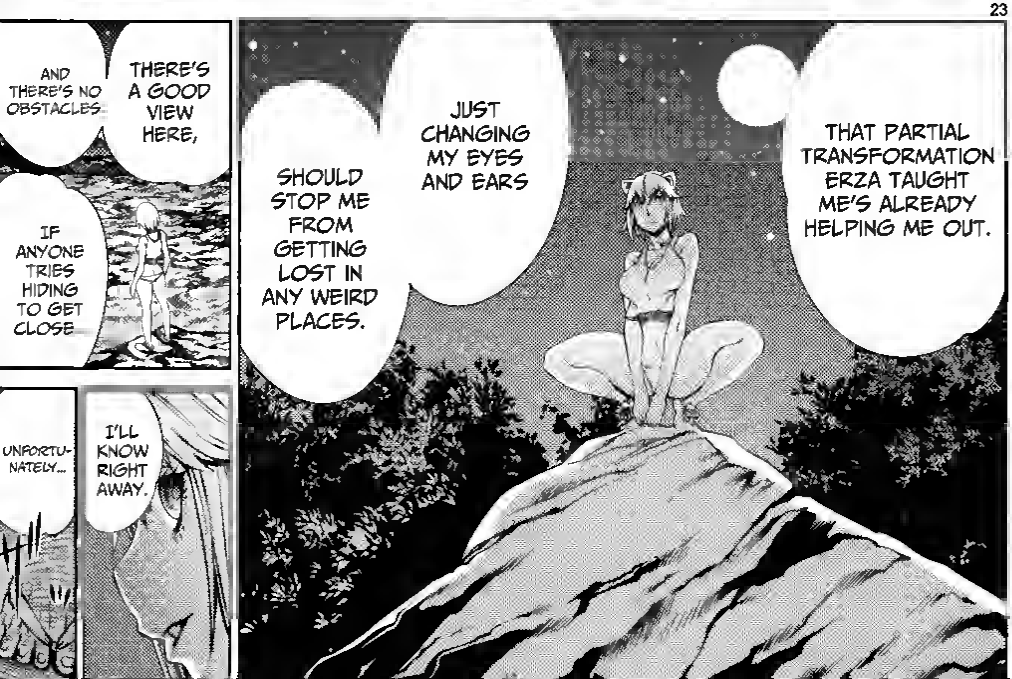
HEH...
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN COMUNICATE THROUGH SIGNS.

チラ


I'LL SHOW YOU...



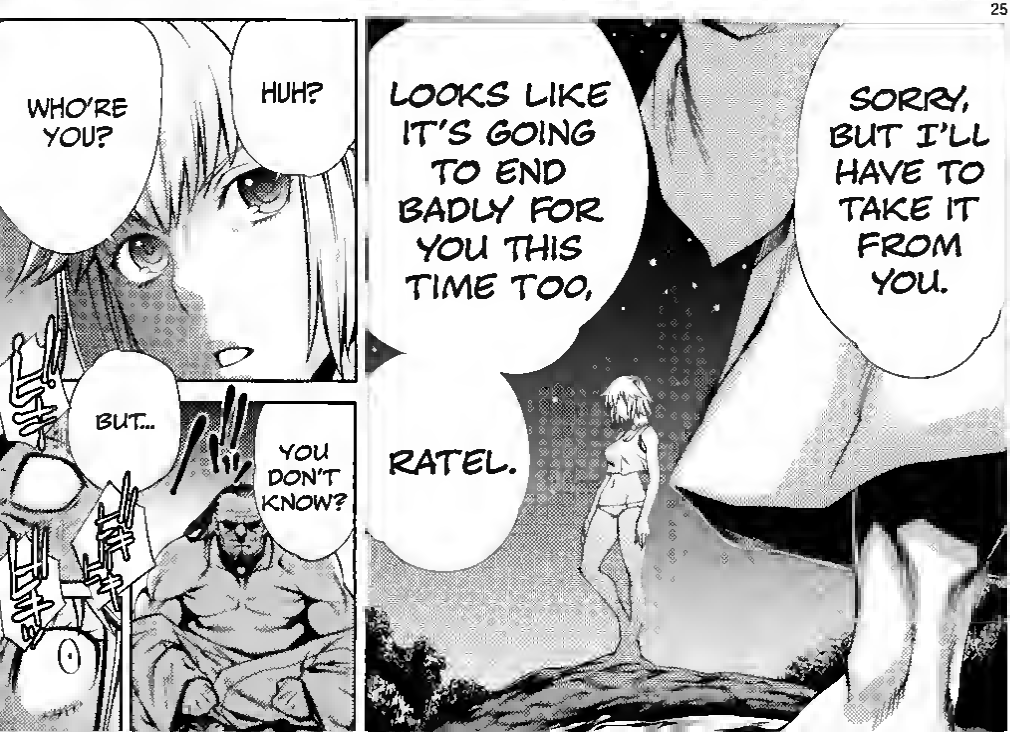

YUP.
OF AN EXPERT DESTROYALE PLAYER!
THE TRUE STRENGTH


AND THERE'S NO OBSTACLES.
THERE'S A GOOD VIEW HERE,
IF ANYONE TRIES HIDING TO GET CLOSE
UNFORTU-NATELY...
I'LL KNOW RIGHT AWAY.
SHOULD STOP ME FROM GETTING LOST IN ANY WEIRD PLACES.
JUST CHANGING MY EYES AND EARS
THAT PARTIAL TRANSFORMATION ERZA TAUGHT ME'S ALREADY HELPING ME OUT.

I WASN'T REALLY PLANNING ON HIDING.

I'M A SUMO WRESTLER.
I DON'T HIDE.
THAT'S WHY...

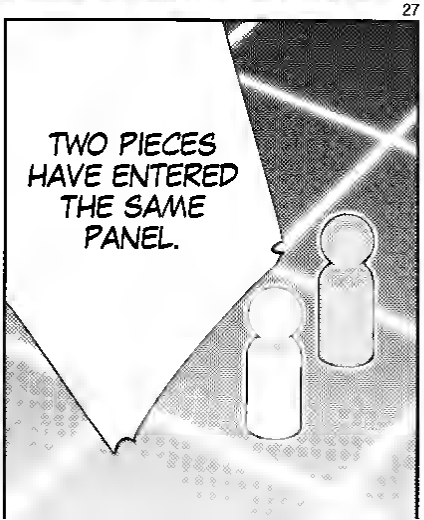
I WAS SUPPOSED
TO GET TO THIS PLACE FIRST.


SORRY, BUT I'LL HAVE TO TAKE IT FROM YOU.
LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO END BADLY FOR YOU THIS TIME TOO, RATEL.
HUH?
WHO'RE YOU?
BUT...
YOU DON'T KNOW?

IF I SHOW YOU THIS FORM, WON'T YOU?
YOU'LL KNOW WHO I AM
BEAR BRUTE
JEROME HONGOU

SHOW-
DOWN!!

A BATTLE HAS ALREADY BEGUN!
EVEN THOUGH IT'S JUST THE FIRST TURN,


TWO PIECES HAVE ENTERED THE SAME PANEL.

ON ONE SIDE, PEERLESS DESTRUCTIVE POWER! ON THE OTHER SIDE, PEERLESS RECKLESSNESS!
BLOOD IS SURE TO FLOW FROM THE FIRST ATTACK!
BEAR VS. RATEL!

FOR WHICH OF THESE TWO
WILL THE REFEREE'S FLAG RII-IIIIISE?
WH—
WHAT'S WITH THIS UNNATURAL HYPE?
AND WAIT, DIDN'T THE ANNOUNCER'S CHARACTER JUST COMPLETELY CHANGE?
15-24 IS CERTAINLY A FAVORABLE SPOT,
BUT ONLY IF YOU'VE FORMED A TEAM BEFORE-HAND.
EVEN IF YOU CAN HOLD IT ON YOUR OWN, THERE'S NO POINT.
WHILE THE BEAR KEEPS YOU BUSY,
IF MY PIECE HEADS OVER AS REINFORCE-MENTS...

IT'LL BE TWO-ON-ONE.
THIS SPOT WILL EASILY FALL INTO THE MITSUKADO'S HANDS.
OF COURSE,
THIS IS ALL ASSUMING
THAT THE RATEL
DOESN'T GET HERSELF KILLED BEFORE I EVEN GET THE CHANCE TO MOVE.
DESTRO-YALE,
FIRST BOUT...

READY,
GO!!!